

## SENATE BILL No. 324

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 27-8-6-6; IC 27-13-7-19.

**Synopsis:** Health coverage for certified surgical assistants. Requires certain accident and sickness insurance policies and health maintenance organization contracts to provide coverage for intraoperative surgical services provided by a certified surgical assistant.

**Effective:** July 1, 2004.

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**Simpson**

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January 12, 2004, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.

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Second Regular Session 113th General Assembly (2004)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2003 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 324

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning insurance.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1       SECTION 1. IC 27-8-6-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2004]: **Sec. 6. (a) As used in this section, "certified surgical**  
4 **assistant" means a certified surgical assistant, a certified surgical**  
5 **technologist/certified first assistant, or a registered nurse first**  
6 **assistant who:**

7           (1) **is directly supervised by a physician licensed under**  
8           **IC 25-22.5;**

9           (2) **specializes in the provision of intraoperative surgical**  
10          **services; and**

11          (3) **is certified by one (1) of the following:**

12           (A) **The National Surgical Assistant Association on the**  
13           **Certification of Surgical Assistants.**

14           (B) **The Liaison Council on Certification of Surgical**  
15           **Technologists.**

16           (C) **The National Certification Board of Perioperative**  
17           **Nursing.**



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(D) Another national certifying body approved by the medical licensing board created by IC 25-22.5-2-1.

(b) As used in this section, "intraoperative surgical services" means services provided under the direct supervision of an operating physician during an operative procedure. The term includes the following:

- (1) Positioning the patient.
- (2) Preparing and draping the patient for the operative procedure.
- (3) Observing the operative site during the operative procedure.
- (4) Assisting in closing incisions or dressing wounds.
- (5) Providing exposure of the anatomy involved in the operative procedure.
- (6) Performing another task that is:
  - (A) relevant to the operative procedure; and
  - (B) required by the operating physician.

(c) A policy of accident and sickness insurance (as defined in IC 27-8-5-1) that provides coverage for surgical services provided by an operating physician must provide coverage for intraoperative surgical services that are provided:

- (1) by a certified surgical assistant; and
- (2) within the scope of the certified surgical assistant's certification.

(d) This section does not require coverage under a policy of accident and sickness insurance for a service that is not otherwise covered under the terms of the policy.

SECTION 2. IC 27-13-7-19 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2004]: Sec. 19. (a) As used in this section, "certified surgical assistant" means a certified surgical assistant, a certified surgical technologist/certified first assistant, or a registered nurse first assistant who:

- (1) is directly supervised by a physician licensed under IC 25-22.5;
- (2) specializes in the provision of intraoperative surgical services; and
- (3) is certified by one (1) of the following:
  - (A) The National Surgical Assistant Association on the Certification of Surgical Assistants.
  - (B) The Liaison Council on Certification of Surgical Technologists.

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(C) The National Certification Board of Perioperative Nursing.

(D) Another national certifying body approved by the medical licensing board created by IC 25-22.5-2-1.

(b) As used in this section, "intraoperative surgical services" means services provided under the direct supervision of an operating physician during an operative procedure. The term includes the following:

(1) Positioning the patient.

(2) Preparing and draping the patient for the operative procedure.

(3) Observing the operative site during the operative procedure.

(4) Assisting in closing incisions or dressing wounds.

(5) Providing exposure of the anatomy involved in the operative procedure.

(6) Performing another task that is:

(A) relevant to the operative procedure; and

(B) required by the operating physician.

(c) An individual contract or group contract that provides coverage for surgical services provided by an operating physician must provide coverage for intraoperative surgical services that are provided:

(1) by a certified surgical assistant; and

(2) within the scope of the certified surgical assistant's certification.

(d) This section does not require coverage under an individual contract or a group contract for a service that is not otherwise covered under the terms of the contract.

SECTION 3. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2004] IC 27-8-6-6, as added by this act, applies to a policy of accident and sickness insurance that is issued, delivered, amended, or renewed after June 30, 2004.

SECTION 4. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2004] IC 27-13-7-19, as added by this act, applies to an individual contract or a group contract with a health maintenance organization that is entered into, delivered, amended, or renewed after June 30, 2004.

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